

Summer to stay hot with local primary

JILLIAN WHITNEY
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Headlines today are constantly occupied with news of the national slugfest for president. However, local elections should receive more of the spotlight, said a UNO political science professor.

Many times, voters place more emphasis on national elections rather than the local races, and this can be a mistake, said Carson Holloway, assistant professor of political science.

"Often times, local races are very important, and it can be a big challenge for people to take the time to figure out who they should vote for in local office," Holloway said.

With the Nebraska primary coming up on May 13, voters will be responsible for learning about which races they will vote in.

Loree Bykerk, chair and professor political science, said she was most interested in local issues such as changes in the Nebraska Legislature's term limits and the Bellevue City Council's proposition to reduce its number of seats.

Bykerk said she was excited by student involvement in Democratic Senate races, especially those of Jim Esch and Richard Carter.

"I think from the attention that the race for the nomination is receiving, that apparently there is a lot of student involvement in that competition. I know that a number of students are active in both of the campaigns. I think that is really a good sign," Bykerk said.

The impact of Nebraska's presidential primaries is still up in the air, with John McCain chosen as the Republican candidate and with the result of Nebraska's first democratic caucus in favor of Barack Obama.

"Given how close the Democratic nominee race is and the fact that the super delegates are likely to be divided, yes, it could matter," Bykerk said.

If the super delegates see an increase of support for Hillary Clinton, it could provide the necessary delegates to clinch the nomination, despite currently lagging behind Obama.

On Wednesday, Audra Ostergard, Nebraska's sixth and final super delegate, pledged her support for

See **ELECTION:** Page 12

Open house at Mav Village



photo by Michelle Bishop

Construction on Maverick Village will be complete by next fall. The dorms will provide residences for about 400 students.

UNO has first glimpse of new housing on Dodge Street campus

JILLIAN WHITNEY
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Faculty, staff and students were given their first official tour Tuesday of the new Maverick Village dorms, built just west of University Village on the Dodge Street campus.

As Jessica Dozark, a graduate fitness and wellness management student, explored the new dorm, she said, "These rooms are way nicer than the dorms I had when I was an

two bathrooms as well as a common kitchen and living area. Rent will be \$460 per month. Each suite is about 1,200 square feet.

Maverick Village will be the first residential facility owned and operated entirely by the university.

"Very similar to the other properties, this will be apartment style living, but all of our utilities are included in one payment that they make per month. So, they pay us and then we take care

a more of a non-commuter institution. They are trying to be more residential. Hopefully, adding more residential space will get more students to live on campus," Pickett said.

Retention is another issue the university hopes to address with increased dorm space.

"National studies show that students who live on campus do better academically and are more apt to return for their second year and



photos by Jillian Whitney

Beginning next fall, Maverick Village, new apartment-style dorms, will become another option for students looking to live on campus.

undergrad at another school. This is like an apartment. It is way better than any dorm life I have ever seen before. It's fantastic."

Maverick Village is composed of eight residential buildings and one commons building. The new dorms feature a layout similar to University Village with four separate bedrooms,

of all the utilities for everything so we don't charge anything else," said Bill Pickett, the managing director.

In an effort to continue promoting on-campus living, UNO decided it would be both financially beneficial and convenient to open its own residential facility.

"My feel is that UNO is trying to be

third year and their fourth year," said Rita Henry, assistant vice chancellor of student affairs.

Both students and faculty seemed interested in increasing on-campus options, especially apartment-style units, like University Village.

"I think they're pretty unbelievable.

See **MAV VILLAGE:** Page 2

COUNTING DOWN...

There are only two more issues of the *Gateway* left this semester, and only one week of classes!

www.unogateway.com

Prepare for graduation



There is still a fair amount to do, other than classes, for those planning to graduate in the summer ceremony.

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Summer movie guide



The *Gateway's* Charley Reed gives his rundown of blockbusters, and flops, for this summer's cinema.

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Nebraska Brewing Co.



The first of a three-part series of breweries in the local community focuses on Nebraska Brewing Company.

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UNO golf tournament



The Mavericks hosted its annual Ironwood Collegiate Golf Classic last weekend, finishing second.

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Colleges balance privacy, safety concerns in year since Virginia Tech shooting

By STEVENSON SWANSON
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

NEW YORK (MCT) – In the year since a mentally disturbed student went on a shooting rampage at Virginia Tech, federal regulators, educators and legal experts have tried to reach a new understanding of the complex web of privacy laws that came under heavy criticism as one of the reasons no one acted in time to prevent the tragedy.

New regulations, information campaigns and legislation are all part of the effort to make sure that college and university officials realize that in cases of imminent threats, the safety of students trumps legal barriers that otherwise would prevent officials from discussing a student's mental state or revealing student records.

"The bottom line is that you'd always rather have a privacy lawsuit than a death lawsuit," said Robert Smith, a Boston lawyer who specializes in advising colleges and universities. "That's my advice to colleges."

By the time Seung Hui Cho opened fire on his fellow students a year ago on April 16, many on the Virginia Tech campus – from roommates to administrators to mental health counselors – had already picked up warning signals from his bizarre behavior that he was a threat to himself and others.

But the failure to put all the pieces together resulted in a shooting spree in which Cho killed 32 people before he shot himself, setting off nationwide reverberations as campuses reconsidered security measures and their treatment of mentally ill students.

In February, the Virginia Tech tragedy found a deadly echo at Northern Illinois University when a mentally disturbed former student killed five people and himself. And on Friday, officials at St. Xavier University on Chicago's Southwest Side closed the campus after threatening graffiti was found in a bathroom in a freshman coed dormitory.

After investigating Virginia Tech's response to the massacre and the events that led up to it, a state panel concluded there was "widespread confusion about what federal and state privacy laws allow."

Virginia Tech officials were hardly alone in not knowing what the law does and does not allow in the case of troubled students, according to many higher-

education experts.

"A hands-off approach is often seen as the safest method of dealing with these students," University of Virginia law professor Richard Bonnie said at a recent Columbia University conference on campus violence. "Many colleges are using the uncertainties about the law as an excuse to do nothing."

The law at the center of the privacy debate is the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, a 1974 statute known as FERPA. For minors, the law prohibits schools from disclosing a student's educational records without consent from the student's parents. At age 18, that right transfers to the students, accounting for the rude awakening many parents receive when they find out they are no longer entitled to see their child's grades without his or her permission.

In addition to FERPA, a host of other federal and state laws, plus regulations and court rulings, govern the disclosure of educational and health records.

But several experts said what college administrators often don't realize is that FERPA and other privacy laws have provisions that allow for the disclosure of a student's records in case of an emergency. A flier that the U.S. Department of Education sent to colleges and universities last year said the law "permits school officials to disclose without student consent education records, including personally identifiable information from those records, to protect the health and safety of students or other individuals."

That came as no surprise to Jan Walbert, vice president for student affairs at Arcadia University in Glenside, Pa. She says the law has never stopped her from taking whatever action she thought necessary to help a troubled student.

"I do think there's this perception that elements of FERPA limit us from doing the right thing," said Walbert, a former president of the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators, which has called for increased training of faculty members and others who come in contact with students to make sure they don't let the law stop them from speaking up about a troubled student. "The issue is that you need to do everything you can do to make sure that everyone is on the same page."

But even if privacy laws contain exemptions for emergencies, it is not always obvious what constitutes an emergency, she said.

Bomb threat in middle school

TAYLOR MULLER
NEWS EDITOR

A bomb threat found on a bathroom wall at Douglas County West Middle School in Waterloo on April 16 came two days after the school district met to discuss and revise emergency procedures.

The threat, which said "Bomb at 2:30" was deemed a hoax but was used to test the school's emergency plans, said George Conrad, superintendent of the Douglas County West Community Schools.

Conrad said it had not been determined if the threat was a copycat of a similar incident that UNO weathered on Valentine's Day.

A graffiti stating that a bomb would go off in UNO's Arts and Sciences Hall on Feb. 14 was located in one of the building's bathrooms several weeks before.

The middle school's threat was discovered at about 11 a.m. and while students were evacuated, classes resumed by 2 p.m.

Conrad said the Douglas County Sheriff Department, K-9 units from Omaha Police Department and local law enforcement all responded. However, in evaluating the evacuation, more interaction was needed with local first responders.

Iowa Western Community College also experienced a similar threat just one week before West's. The threat, found in a bathroom stall on campus, reportedly said, "Boom at noon." While the campus was cleared and bomb sniffing K-9 units swept the area, no explosive devices were found.

In comparing the higher education bomb threats with the middle school's, Conrad said that despite different situations, the scare is always there.

"I think one of the things K-12 institutes have really done and able to do so with physical plant and structure, are lockdown procedures," Conrad said. "We have, during the school day, limited access to buildings. If you're a visitor, you can only come in one way and that's through the office."

Regardless of location though, he agreed threats were a "nightmare for security people to deal with."

UNO Campus Security Assistant Manager Paul Kosel said when his department was first notified of West's bomb threat, little information was available through Omaha police.

"By the time it got going, there was nothing to be passed on, and before you know it, it was done," Kosel said. "I do know Omaha police has pictures of [our threat], so comparisons, hand writing, I'm sure was done. But, we haven't been contacted for anything more."

Crime Log

COMPILED BY
SCOTT STEWART
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Friday, April 18

9 a.m. Student reported theft of personal property from vehicle parked at Saint Margaret Mary's church. Incident occurred between 8:30 p.m., Thursday, April 17, and 7:20 a.m., Friday, April 18.

Saturday, April 19

10:45 p.m. Campus Security responded to a noise complaint at Scott Village. Further investigation disclosed student shooting an air pistol from the balcony. The weapon was confiscated, and the student was referred for disciplinary action.

Monday, April 21

4:48 p.m. A staff member reported theft of university property from Peter Kiewit Institute. Incident occurred between 8 a.m., Tuesday, Jan. 1, and 4:48 p.m., Monday, April 21.

10:45 p.m. A visitor and a staff member both reported theft of personal property from Health, Physical Education and Recreation Building. Incident occurred between 8:30 p.m. and 10:45 p.m.

Tuesday, April 22

5 p.m. A staff member reported theft of personal property from Peter Kiewit Institute. Incident occurred on Monday, April 21, between 3:40 p.m. and 3:50 p.m. Suspect is described as an African American male, mid 40s, 5-foot-5, 140 pounds, wearing a red, white and black track suit.

From **MAV VILLAGE**: Page 1

I don't think you can even consider them dorms, which is funny. When you look at other places and other dorms in universities, it's a non-comparison. I think they are really great," said Jason Flores, assistant women's basketball coach.

Don Klosterman, women's soccer coach for UNO, said he thought the new dorms would be an excellent incentive for future recruits.

"I think this is going to be great for us in terms of for athletics, for recruitment. Students could see this and think, 'Wow I could live in this place.'" Klosterman said.

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A road map to commencement

JUDY HANSEN
CONTRIBUTOR

Nobody needs a reminder that there are only a few weeks left in the school year. For seniors, that means their college years will soon come to an end. Before graduates can show off their robes and tassels, they must complete more requirements than just credit hours.

In case seniors got excited and prematurely threw away their planners, here is a reminder. Graduation dates are set for May 9, 2008, and Aug. 15, 2008. Both will be held at the Civic Auditorium at 2 p.m.

Hopefully those who plan to graduate in May have already taken the first step toward graduation, by submitting an "application for degree" on E-BRUNO. The application was due March 14, for students graduating in May.

Seniors graduating in summer have until July 3 to pay the \$25 application fee and complete the application online. It asks for simple information, such as how the name should be written on the diploma and which address the diploma should be sent to. After students fill out the "application for degree," they need to visit the customer service counter at the UNO bookstore to get fitted for graduation caps and gowns. No appointment is necessary; just walk in between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.

The deadline for fitting is three weeks before commencement. That means May graduates need to stop mastering the art of procrastination and get measured as soon as possible. Summer graduates have until July 25.

"There's a group of students who get

fitted early in the semester because they're excited to graduate, and then there's a group that does it late because they're not sure if they are going to graduate," said Michael Schmidt, manager of the UNO Bookstore.

When students go to get measured, they do not need to bring anything or wear any certain type of clothing, Schmidt said. Employees measure height, chest size and head size. The measurements only take a few minutes, unless there is a line to wait in.

"We do fittings all semester, so there shouldn't ever be a line," Schmidt said. "Over the lunch hour we get a lot of people, and on the very last day we get a long line."

Getting measured between classes rather than during lunch will save time. To save both time and money, most students elect to rent their robes instead of buying them.

Rental prices vary, depending on the degree. Bachelor's degree robe rentals cost \$32.95. That price includes a robe, a hat and a souvenir tassel. Master's degree robe rentals run about \$63. Rental prices are decent deals compared to the hundreds of dollars it costs to purchase a graduation gown.

Some seniors may want to get a photo taken in their graduation gear. In this case, robes may be picked up the day before commencement. Otherwise, students can grab their gowns the morning of the ceremony. Robes should be returned at the Civic Auditorium right after commencement.

Once the ceremony is over, more
See **COMMENCEMENT**: Page 7



photo by Michelle Bishop

Former Gateway staffer Leia Baez waves to family and friends during commencement in May 2006.

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IN THEATERS FRIDAY, MAY 2!



Christina Clark is a junior political science major who is minoring in journalism. She is currently enrolled in Meredith Bacon's Minority Politics: LGBT course. She is a freelance contributor to the Gateway.

Political Science 3100, Minority Politics, has been offered at UNO for several years.

In 2001, Meredith Bacon took over teaching the class. Bacon has taught at UNO for 32 years and is a staunch supporter of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender rights.

She is also a member of the LGBT community as a transgendered woman.

Bacon came to UNO with a doctorate in international relations and a dissertation in Romanian diplomacy, which she received at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University. She's the published author of "Behind Closed Doors," a book that discusses diplomacy in Romania. She also did case work in Romania and was *persona non grata*, an unwelcome diplomat, from 1980 until the revolution in 1989.

Her area of expertise is in eastern European studies. But her area of research in the last several years is in LGBT politics, primarily focusing on the "T" – transgender.

Bacon says that since the age of four she knew she was different. It wasn't until 1990 that she became an ally to the LGBT movement, and it wasn't until 2005 that she recommended to the political science department that minority politics be taught to provide a non-racial, diversity credit.

This came at a time when Bacon says she started coming out to herself. In June 2005, Bacon made the transition from Professor Wally M. Bacon to Professor W. Meredith Bacon.

As a member of the LGBT movement, Bacon is heavily involved with two organizations. First is the Nebraska AIDS Project. She helps the project raise money and occasionally gives talks on the politics of AIDS.

She said the biggest problem she encounters is with the older generation not wanting to give money to the "gay disease." When the AIDS pandemic occurred in the 1980s, it was only recorded in gay men, and changing that thought process in older Americans is a problem still being faced. Bacon talks about paradigm shifts being very slow and generational.

One of the biggest fundraisers for the Nebraska AIDS Project is the Night of 1,000 Stars. It is a dinner and show that brings an upwards of \$400,000 annually.

The group often brings in local bands to play, but they have also had some nationally famous artists, such as Casey and the Sunshine Band and Hootie and the Blowfish. Bacon and her spouse host a dinner before the Night of 1,000 Stars at their home to encourage big contributors to give to the Nebraska AIDS Project.

Bacon is also involved with the LGBT movement on the national level. She is the chair of the board of directors for the National Center for Transgender Equality. The center has an office on Capitol Hill, which Bacon describes as "a stone throws distance from the Congress building."

She jokingly adds, "And sometimes I am tempted."

The National Center for Transgender Equality lobbies for transgender rights and also provides educational resources with the help of the National Gay and Lesbian Taskforce.

Currently, NCTE has a hate crimes bill – the Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act, or House Resolution 1592 – working its way through Congress. Bacon says President Bush promises to veto the bill if it does pass.

She says NCTE is very interested in getting a president into office this election who will be kinder to their cause and will pass the bill. The center is hopeful that the current Congress will be more motivated to pass civil rights legislation.

NCTE also helped push the Employment Non-Discrimination Bill through Congress, but on the way it was stripped of covering gender identity, which would leave transgenders in the dust. NCTE parted ways with the Human Rights Campaign, a huge advocate for gay rights, because of this.

Bacon helps to organize transgender political education every year through NCTE. She says that transgenders are not typically political people because of what she calls "stealth," or what is known as "in the closet" in the gay community.

Every April 15, a huge group of transgender men and women meet at Capitol Hill and lobby for their rights. Bacon says that when hundreds of transgender people are gathering in a building where there are offices of members of Congress, people take notice.

NCTE also hosts a reception at the National Press Club every year. It's a reception for media personnel in particular, but they are often fortunate enough to get representatives of congressmen and women and senators to attend.

Bacon says it is more important for them to have a staff assistant to attend than the actual person because the assistant can focus more on NCTE's cause. The main focus of the reception is to highlight someone in the transgendered community who contributes to the center.

In addition to the work Bacon does for the Nebraska AIDS Project and NCTE, she also supports the UNO Safe Space project.

According to Bacon, there are no student organizations for LGBTs, but there used to be one called ABC Soup – so named because there are so many letters associated with LGBTs – and students are in the works to create a group called Q&A, meaning Queers and Allies or Questions and Answers.

UNO's student government also recently created the Gender and Sexual Orientation Agency, which began holding programming such as Thursday's day of silence event.

Bacon belongs to the Episcopal Church and, while there is no formal organization at her church, she and her spouse are always available to speak with parents about their children who are LGBT or questioning.

Bacon says that the best way for people, and especially

Meet Meredith Bacon

Advocating LGBT rights on campus, on Capitol Hill

Dr. W. Meredith Bacon, pictured here from shortly after undergoing facial surgery in San Francisco in 2005, transitioned from a male to a female over summer break three years ago.

photo by Caelan Millerd

students, to get involved with the LGBT movement is to assure LGBTs that they have allies.

She spoke of the foreign exchange program and how foreign students are coupled with national students who show them around and befriend foreign people into the U.S. Bacon thinks that it wouldn't be a bad idea to have an LGBT exchange program.

So many LGBTs are very lost in a world where being lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender is shameful, and it would be good for them to know they have friends who accept them, she said.

One might think that with all that Bacon has done and all that she is doing, she wouldn't be even thinking of her next big project.

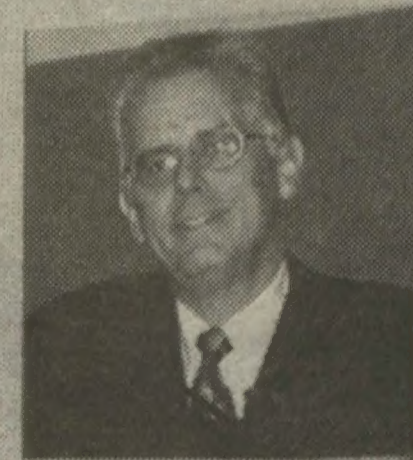
However, she is currently in the process of writing a book, and she says that her dream is to someday open a homeless shelter in Omaha for LGBT teens.

Bacon said the number of homeless teens is disturbing. She attributed many of those teens' conditions to being kicked out of their home for being LGBT. The teens are turning to work on the streets, which includes drugs and sex.

Bacon certainly has her work cut out for her, but she plans to continue her mission of making this world better for lesbians, gays, bisexuals and transgenders.

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Arts & Leisure

Charley Reed | Arts & Leisure Editor

Page 5

arts@unogateway.com | April 25, 2008

In short: CD reviews in under 200 words

Goldfinger

"Hello Destiny..."

Ska fans rejoice! Goldfinger has chosen to appease us once again.

The second track on the album, "Get Up," brings back the horns and ska guitars that should make you want to get up and skank.

"If I'm Not Right..." adds a little 2-tone ska to the mix as well. Monique Powell of the sadly defunct ska band

Save Ferris even lends her beautiful voice to the track.

Goldfinger seems to have absorbed some additional styles as well with the obviously emo-influenced "War" and the blatantly and comically metal "Handjobs for Jesus."

The album also includes guest vocals by Bert McCracken of The Used, Ian Watkins of Lostprophets and Alexander

Sandate and Dillon DeVoe of Josephine Collective.

Unfortunately the album, like the last two, is still littered with more overstated animal rights propaganda, which ruins any attempt to recreate Goldfinger's original sound.

Even with the long-awaited return of original guitarist Charlie Paulson, the album is merely mediocre.



★ ★ ★ ★

Story of the Year

"The Black Swan"

For those who are steadfast believers that "Page Avenue" is the best Story of the Year album, you will be pleased to know that "The Black Swan" is a return to form.

Meanwhile, those who are steadfast lovers of the '80s rock style of the band's "In the Wake of Determination," fear not. This new album is the lovechild of the band's

two previous albums under the strictest supervision.

The three years since SOTY last released an album was worth the wait. While "Black Swan" is chock full of anti-war and let-love-rule sentiments, it also hits hard with some of their most powerful guitars riffs yet.

While most of the songs are more of the screamo style SOTY is known for, a healthy mix of metal riffs and

solos are injected into the music more subtly than the band's last album.

With this release SOTY even tackles a subject that has not been the subject for music since the '70s. "We're Not Gonna Make It" deals with ignorance destroying an interracial relationship. Who says SOTY isn't deep?

Vocalist Dan Marsala, in the band's last MySpace.com webisode said, "If you don't like the new album, you're a dick." I concur.



★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Tantric

"The End Begins"

Tantric's third album, actually, doesn't sound much like Tantric at all.

This might be because vocalist Hugo Ferreira is the only remaining member from the band's original lineup. Ferreira's voice makes this album as close to the last two albums as the guitars made Days of the

New's last two albums similar.

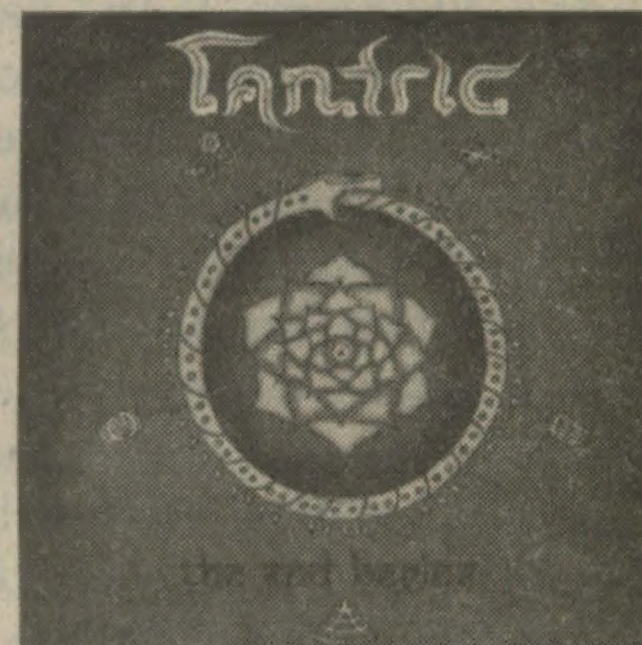
The most notable addition to the band's lineup is a violinist. Every song on the album includes violin sections, which is a mixed blessing.

It's great to see Ferreira keep the band alive by trying something new, but the violins sound a little out of place in a few songs. Other songs like "Something Better" and "Wishing" make great use of the

violin. "Lucky One" actually uses a heavily distorted violin riff as a focus and it works well.

New guitarist Joe Pessia, while not as good, does a decent impression of the amazing fretwork of former guitarist Todd Whitener.

The new material is more good than bad, and any Tantric fan should enjoy this album, regardless of the new style and members.



★ ★ ★ ★

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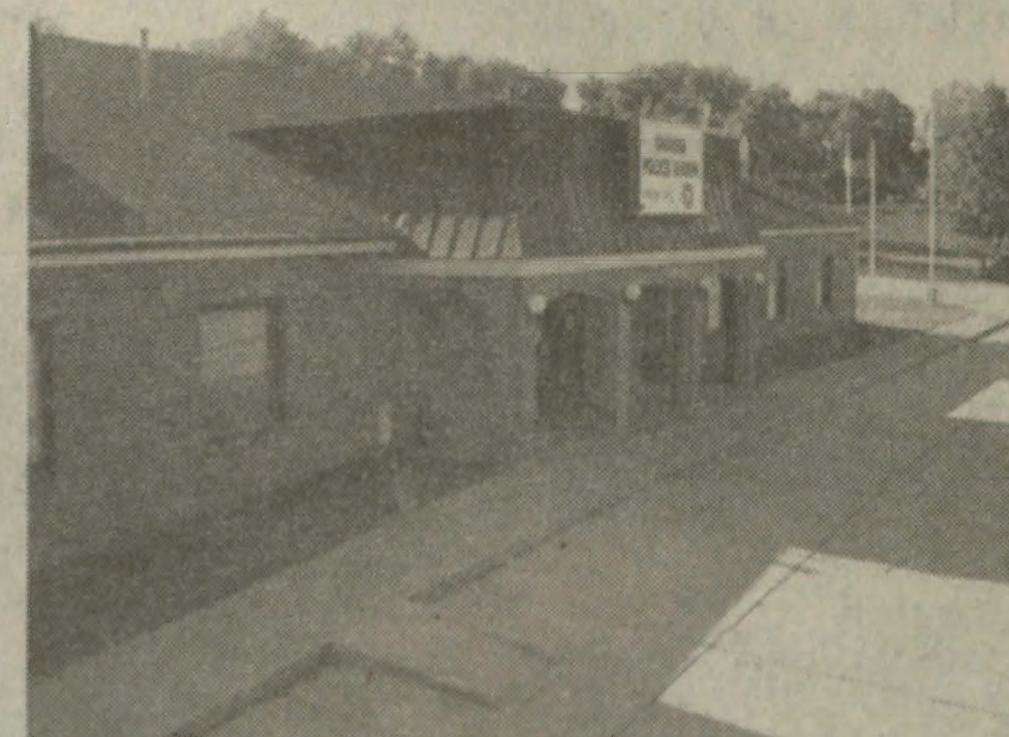
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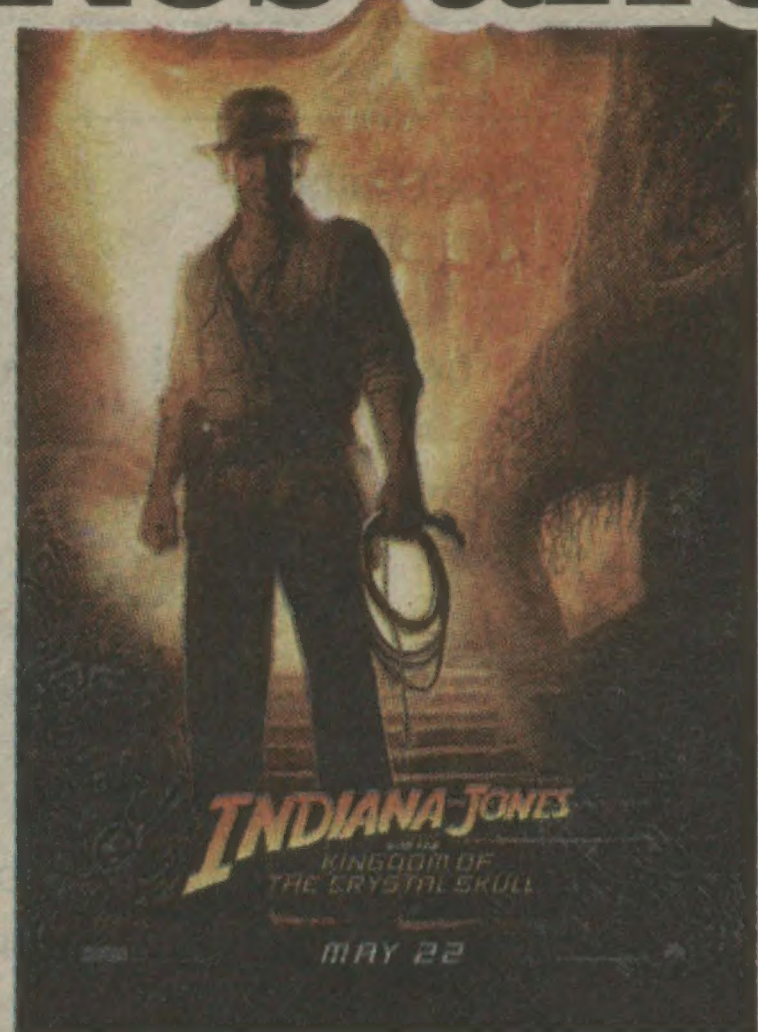
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Sequels, remakes and stars: oh my!



Summer movie season set to smash box-office records

CHARLEY REED
A&L EDITOR

Ah yes, it's that time of year again.

As the temperature gets warmer and the anticipation of the last week of school draws near, it's almost easy to forget that right around the corner is the start of the summer movie season.

Next week marks 2008's first foray into a four-month smorgasbord of remakes, sequels, adaptations and all-around big-budget adventures. If last year was any indication, this year's selection could be Hollywood's most profitable yet.

On May 2, comic book favorite **"Iron Man"** will be getting the movie treatment. Directed by Jon Favreau (*"Elf," "Swingers"*), the film features Robert Downey Jr. playing the role he was born for.

As Tony Stark, an eccentric businessman kidnapped in Iraq and forced to create a state-of-the-art suit of armor, Downey Jr. matches wits with co-stars Gwyneth Paltrow and Terrance Howard. Rumor is that *"Iron Man"* is the first in a planned trilogy of films.

May 9 brings us two films. First up is **"Speed Racer,"** an adaptation by the Wachowski brothers (*"The Matrix," "V for Vendetta"*) of the epilepsy-inducing Japanese anime series. From the previews the movie looks like it could cause cavities just by watching it.

But Caspian's reign won't last long as the movie event of the year: **"Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull,"** opens nation-wide. Not only is the 66-year-old Ford reprising the role of Jones for the first time since 1989, but teen star Shia LeBeouf is also attached.

Expect three generations of moviegoers to push this fourth installment of the legendary franchise past last year's *"Spider Man 3"* for the title of all-time biggest opening weekend box office.

Rounding out the month is **"Sex and the City: The Movie,"** a film that might have missed its opportunity to score a big audience by a year or two.

June has a variety of offerings, all of them potential hits.

Two legendary comedians, Adam Sandler and Jack Black, each take to the screen on June 6. Sandler stars in **"You Don't Mess with the Zohan."** The plot doesn't seem all that interesting but with a Judd Apatow-written script, it's hard to tell.

Meanwhile Black takes a hint from all those Kids Choice Awards shows he's hosted and plays an animated panda in **"Kung-Fu Panda."** Maybe now those stupid cell phone announcements before every film will finally stop.

June 13 features Edward Norton as Bruce Banner in a new take on **"The Incredible Hulk."** Hey, it can't be as bad as the first go around right?

of stars starting with Will Smith, Charlize Theron and Jason Bateman in the anti-super hero film, **"Hancock."** On July 11, Ron Pearlman returns as Hellyboy in Guillermo del Toro's **"Hellboy II: The Golden Army"** before making way for likely the most controversial film of the year, **"The Dark Knight,"** on July 18.

After Heath Ledger's death in January, rumors circulated that the actor's commitment to approaching the role of the psychopathic Joker through method acting may have played a role. In any case, the rumors are that this may be Ledger's defining role and one of the great performances in film history. Not to mention you also have Christian Bale, Morgan Freeman, Michael Cane, Maggie Gyllenhaal, Gary Oldman and Aaron Eckhart as just some of the rest of this all-star cast.

An adaptation of the Broadway hit, **"Mamma Mia!"** is also on tap for July 18, featuring Meryl Streep and Pierce Brosnan in starring roles.

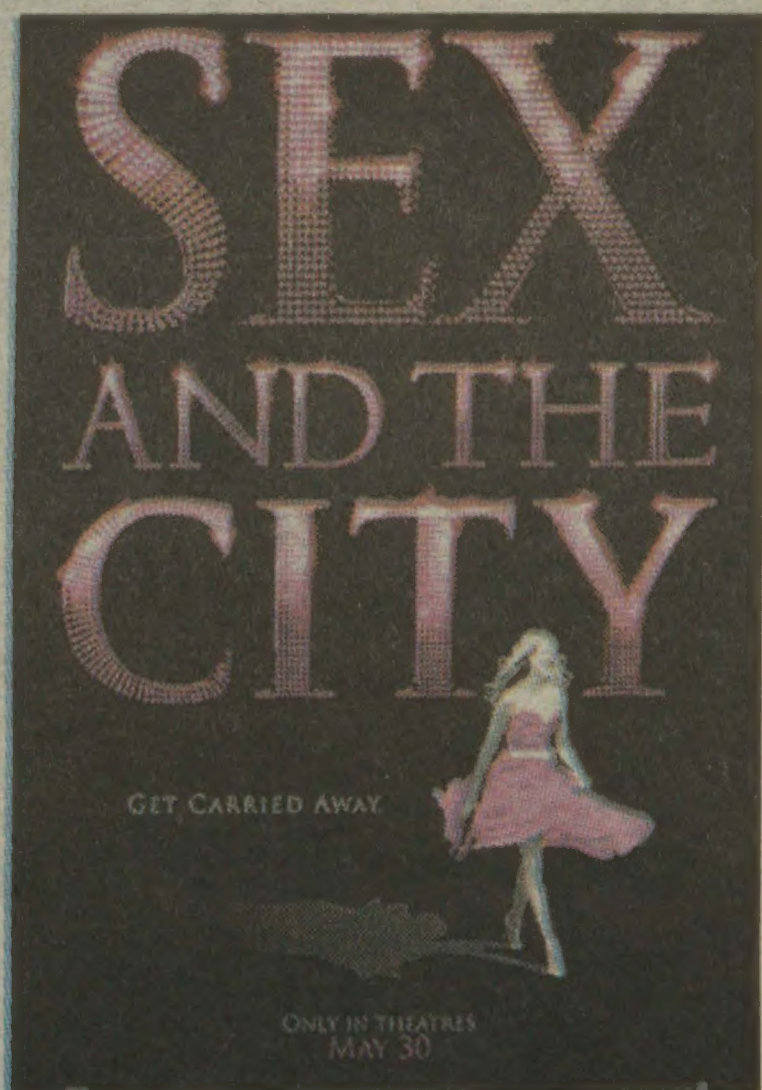
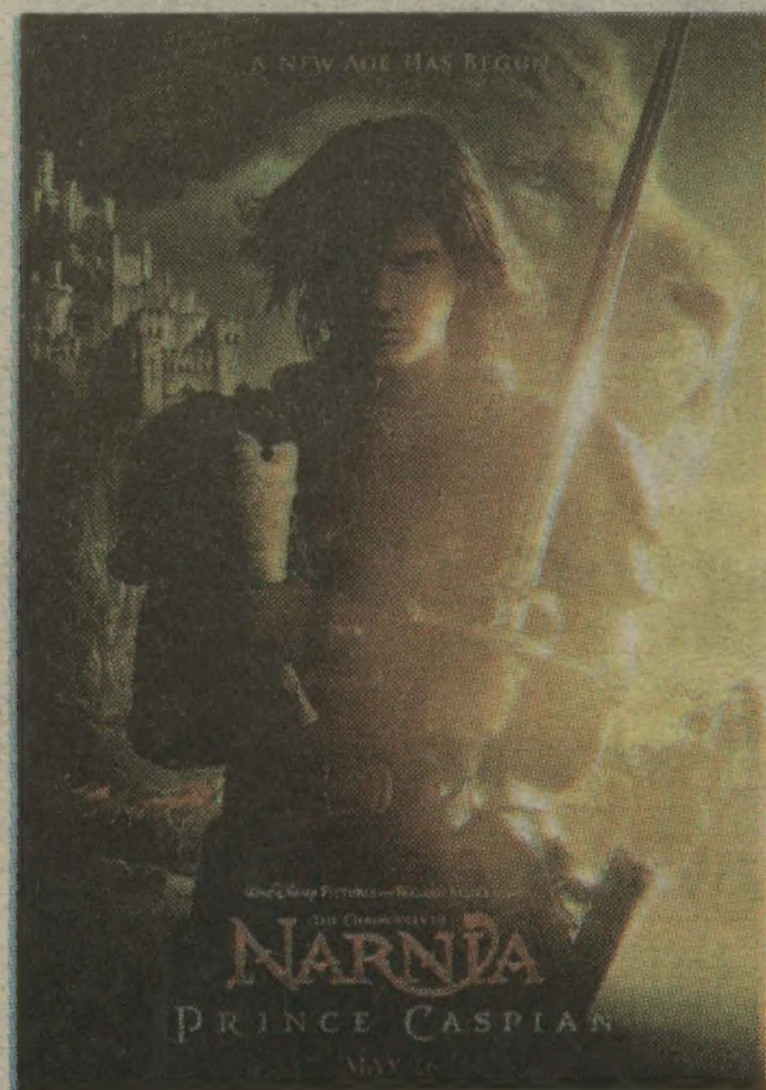
Will Ferrell and John C. Reilly, join forces for the comedic **"Step Brothers"** while Gillian Anderson and David Duchovny return for the **"X-Files"** sequel. No, really, they do.

Many may want to believe Mulder and Scully can bring out hardcore fans of the hit series, but it's hard

Vinnie "I'm the Juggernaut bitch!" Jones.

Aug. 8 brings a weekend of gender wars with the Seth Rogen-led stoner comedy **"Pineapple Express"** competing against **"The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants 2."** A week later features a new Ben Stiller-as-actor/director comedy, thankfully supported by Jack Black and Robert Downey Jr. called **"Tropic Thunder,"** a movie about actors playing soldiers being forced to actually fight.

And finally on Aug. 22, the weekend before everyone returns back to classes, Nicholas Cage stars as a hit man in a Pang brothers (*"Infernal Affairs," "The Eye"*) remake of their 1999 Hong Kong debut film, **"Bangkok Dangerous."**



Also being released is **"What Happened in Vegas..."** an Ashton Kutcher and Cameron Diaz film about two strangers who get married in Sin City but argue over how to split a \$3 million jackpot that Kutcher wins on Diaz's quarter.

Sounds kind of like part one of *"Britney Spears: The Movie"* - exactly what we need. Why exactly do people see Ashton Kutcher movies again?

The following week parents and children can rejoice that, after a two-and-a-half years, the sequel to the first *"The Chronicles of Narnia"* film, **"Prince Caspian,"** opens in theaters. The cast from the first film all return with newcomer Ben Barnes playing the title role. Expect this film to easily break the \$100-million mark its opening weekend.

Meanwhile M. Night Shyamalan returns with his take on the apocalypse disaster film, **"The Happening."** Ten bucks says it will be confusing, pretentious and not as good as his first film, which he directed almost a decade ago.

The next two weeks give something to enjoy for pretty much any fan. June 20 gives you two mass-market comedies, **"Get Smart"** for the college-and-above crowd and **"The Love Guru"** for the 14-to-18-year-old demographic. Then on June 27, you have the latest from animation giants Pixar, called **"Wall-E,"** and a dark-and-brooding thriller called **"Wanted"** starring Morgan Freeman and Angelina Jolie from the director of the two *"Night Watch"* films.

July brings out a massive collection

to see what else they can try and surprise us with.

Then we reach August, the stretch run of the summer blockbuster season. But don't tell that to the studio heads, who saved some of their biggest offerings for last.

The umpteenth installment in the *"Mummy"* franchise, **"The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor"** comes out on Aug. 1, bringing Brendan Fraser back to combat Jet Li and Michelle Yeoh.

Also debuting is politically-charged film, **"Swing Vote,"** led by Kevin Costner (big surprise) and an oddly-titled but strangely tempting horror flick called **"The Midnight Meat Train"** from the mind of *"Hellraiser"* director Clive Barker starring

Also, Uma Thurman returns to the romantic comedy genre with **"The Accidental Husband,"** featuring Jeffrey Dean Morgan (*"Pushing Daisies"*), about a woman who gives bad breakup advice only to have a the jilted ex, Justina Machado (*"Six Feet Under"*), get revenge.

With so many choices this summer, there's enough for everyone to find something.

While four months may seem like a long time to enjoy the wide selection, this year's selection of blockbusters will leave viewers gasping for breath and asking for more.



photo courtesy of War Bros - photo illustration by Charley Reed

Brewing success in Nebraska

A look at Papillion's Nebraska Brewing Company

TAYLOR MULLER
NEWS EDITOR

Walk into the Nebraska Brewing Company asking for your favorite frosty brew in a bottle, and your bartender or server will kindly inform you that the only beers this brewhouse serves are the ones created on the premises.

"The biggest thing is people who would default to other brands don't have that here," said Kim Kavulak, co-owner of the brewing company. "They are forced to try something new and invariably are pleasantly surprised at the new flavor or new option they have now. We've seen some of those people grow."

Located in the Shadow Lake Towne Center at 7474 Towne Center Parkway in Papillion, the Nebraska Brewing Company is working hard to differentiate itself in a market of craft brewers and restaurants.

Wholly dedicated to spreading their love of craft brews, owners Kim and Paul Kavulak opened the brewhouse five months ago and have since produced 17 different styles of beers.

A natural extension of their home brewing hobby, since opening in November, the husband-wife team has made great strides in creating craft brews and introducing them to customers that may not have experienced small batch quality beers.

"We're not just here to make beer, we're here to make exceptional beer that people will remember for a hell of a long time after they've left the building," Paul said.

The beers are definitely the stars. Paul, along with fellow brew masters Dean Dobmeier and Tyson Arp, has created a core of beers that are always on tap, as well as a variety of brewer's choice specials.

Nebraska Brewing Company also has a full menu, with many of the items utilizing beer in their recipes.

The core currently includes the India Pale Ale, Eden Amber, Eos Wheat and Cardinal Pale Ale.

The Brewer's Choice beers loosely follow the seasons and include one beer that is exclusively for members of the

Ale Nation, the company's brew club.

The club goes one step beyond typical beer clubs, with exclusive access to some of the pub's special brews.

"We wanted to find a way to set ourselves apart and make our mark in the craft beer community," Kim said. "We really wanted to give them a place in our beer community, within our restaurant and give them an opportunity to share their feedback."



photo by Michelle Bishop

The Nebraska Brewing Company, which opened in November, is a home brew-based restaurant and bar featuring a unique selection of beers.

Members receive beer discounts and can earn free gear in addition to exclusive beer access.

Only turning out brews for the last five months, the company currently distributes to almost 50 different businesses in the greater metropolitan area.

A lofty start for something that began for the brew masters at home, Paul said.

As for those looking to make their own beer, Paul suggests they start with a kit and not be intimidated by the different components or process.

"When you look into a bucket and there's a can of malt extract and yeast and when they look at it, and when there's a book in there on how to make beer, it looks really complex," he said. "I'm sure the average home brewers are going to look at that pile of stuff and think they're going to meet with failure and that's not true."

Recently, the price of hops, a key component in creating many beers, has increased dramatically. The increase, Paul said, has impacted both the brewery and the industry.

When purchasing the company's initial stock of hops September, Paul explained that while the order was bigger than they had initially wanted, looking back, he couldn't have ordered enough.

"We were getting the variety of hops we needed but frankly I wish we could have gotten 10 times more," he said. "The second time, there was an over 10-fold increase in one of the varieties. When you encounter a market that sways like that, you have to make difficult decisions, substituting things, abandoning some."

But despite fluctuating prices and the inherent difficulties in running a startup business, both Kim and Paul said everything has been worthwhile.

"We're so busy in making sure we're doing all the things right," Kim said. "It's really been a great experience."

Quality is what makes everything worthwhile for Paul.

"For me, as a brewer, it's looking at other people who've experienced your beer, your product and when they look back at you and there's a gleam in their eye that says, 'This is good stuff,'" Paul said.

The "Brewing success" series continues in Gateway's April 29 issue with a profile on Omaha's Upstream Brewing Company and on May 2, profiling Lincoln's Emperyan Ales.

'88 minutes:' 108 minutes of enjoyable suspense

REVIEW BY
SCOTT STEWART
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

I walked into "88 Minutes" with a couple questions: one, would this be another cheesy movie using the countdown device popularized by Fox's "24," and two, why the heck is Al Pacino the lead character?

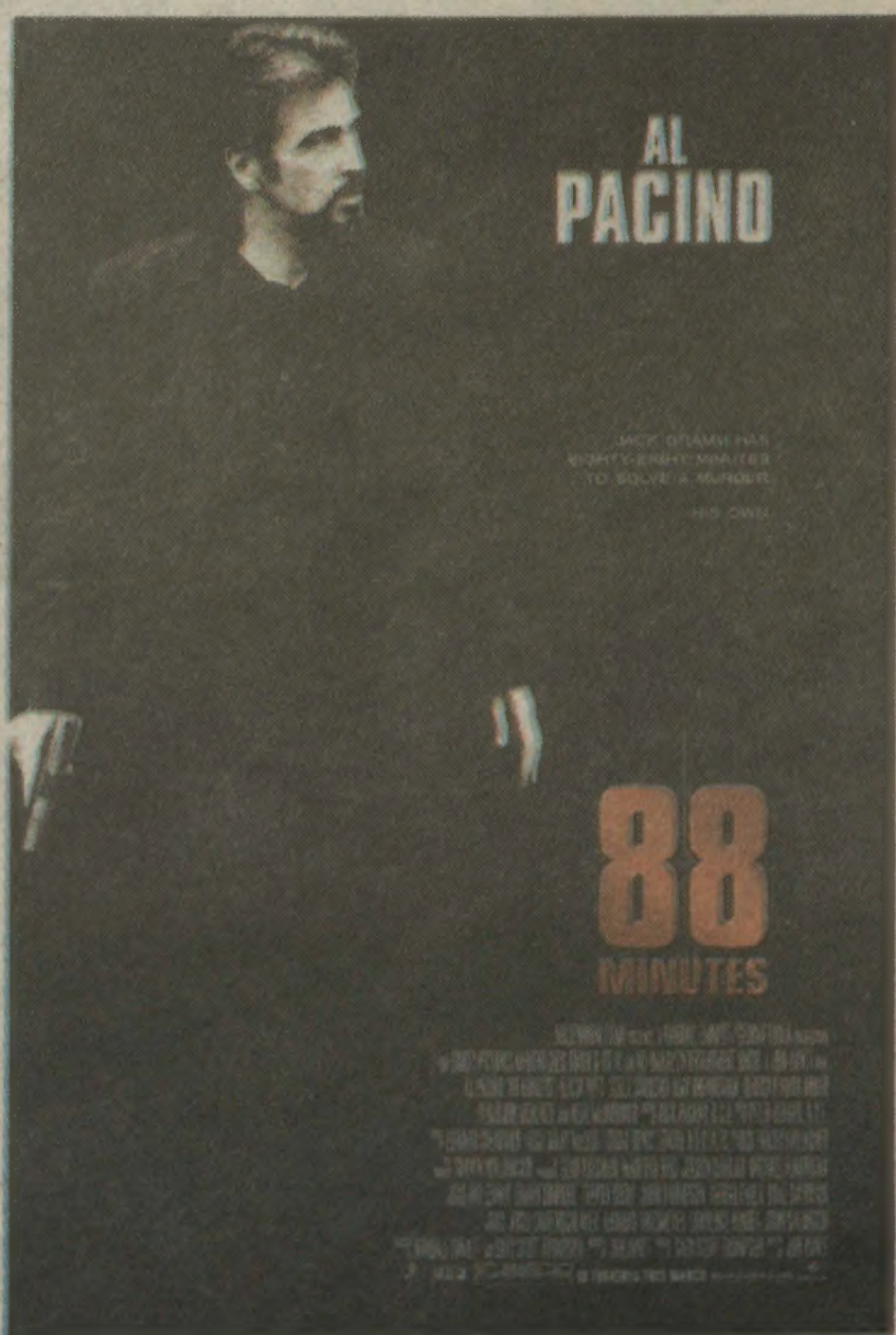
Critics didn't offer much encouragement: Yahoo! Movies gave "88 Minutes" a 'D' rating and RottenTomatoes.com gave it a whopping 6 percent.

Nevertheless, unless you go to the box office expecting to be buying a ticket to a movie that might rival "The Godfather," "88 Minutes" is a perfectly entertaining, enjoyable film.

It has the clichés you might expect, but it does a good job at keeping you wondering whodunit until near the end.

The action sequences are frequent enough to keep the movie from being too lost — so long as you're not thinking too hard.

As for acting, etc., why are you going to see a movie like "88 Minutes" if you're too worried about that anyway? Hold on to your money for this summer's films.



★ ★ ★

If you're looking for a short diversion from studying this week, though, "88 Minutes" is a good bet for a relaxing evening.

From **COMMENCEMENT:** Page 3 requirements still need to be fulfilled before degrees are finalized. Students have 15 working days after commencement to complete coursework and all other degree requirements, according to the UNO Registrar Office's Web site. Then, diplomas will be mailed.

As students prepare to exit college life

and enter the real world, Schmidt said they should do as Ferris Bueller did: Stop and look around every once in a while.

"Students worked long and hard to get here," Schmidt said. "Graduation is a time to celebrate with family and friends. Stop and enjoy it, because you've earned it."

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Streaks end for UNO diamond-dwellers

Baseball plays for record, falls short at Washburn

Softball streak ends at 15, slate clean for stretch run

KEVIN CLEMENS
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

The UNO baseball team entered Tuesday's game in Topeka, Kan., riding an 18-game winning streak.

UNO's bid for a school record 19 in a row fell short with a 7-2 loss to Washburn.

"We grabbed the lead early in the first inning, but just didn't play that well," said UNO Head Coach Bob Herold. "It was a combination of a lot of things, and hopefully we can win the next one."

The Mavericks opened the scoring Tuesday with RBIs from Dustin Koca and Brian Strawn in the first inning. The Washburn Ichabods fired back with four runs in the second inning, and they never looked back.

Washburn added three more runs in the eighth inning, which proved to be more than enough run support for WU starter Jake Iverson and company.

UNO junior Ryan Hines (3-2) suffered the loss Tuesday despite five strong innings and four strikeouts. His only blemish was the four-run second inning.

"We saw a team that didn't look too good on paper, but they out-played us," Herold said.

Despite the loss, Herold said he is pleased with his team's chemistry thus far this season.

"They've done a real good job of molding together as a team, and right now we are just trying to build for the future and get wins."

Throughout the exciting record-tying roll, the Mavs showed the depth and talent of their roster. A UNO player has

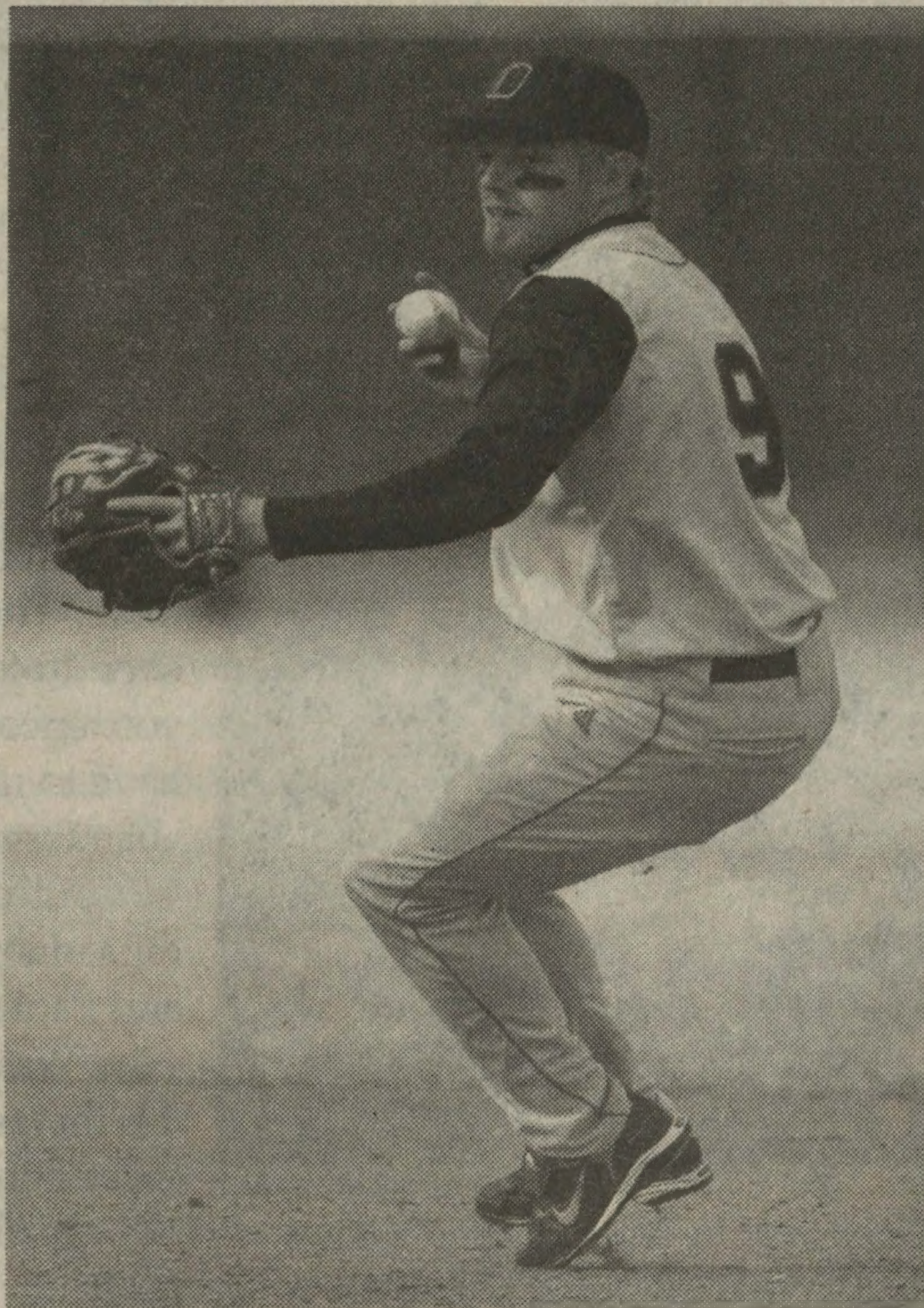


photo by Michelle Bishop

Bryan Frew is one of six Mavericks in the last six weeks to win NCC player-of-the-week honors.

won North Central Conference player-of-the-week honors each of the last six weeks. Those earning player-of-the-week honors were position players Bryan Frew, Evan Porter, Dustin Koca and Mat Eikmeier, and pitchers Chris Kessinger (twice awarded) and Tim Huber.

UNO stayed in the Sunflower State for a Wednesday afternoon double-header with Fort Hays State. The Mavs got back on track with a two-game sweep of the Tigers.

The Mavericks will play a pair of double-headers this weekend versus NCC opponent St. Cloud State in St. Cloud, Minn.

SEAN OWENS
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

As the No. 11 UNO Mavericks went into Vermillion, S.D., last Tuesday, they brought with them a 15-game win streak. When the team left, they found that streak shattered after consecutive losses by scores of 2-1 and 5-3 to the South Dakota Coyotes.

UNO had taken on a plethora of North Central Conference opponents, putting together a run that started with a sweep of South Dakota in Omaha in early April. However, the Mavs suffered their first NCC loss in nearly a month.

In the double-header matchup, UNO had one of its least productive offensive performances of the season.

In game one, the Mavs put up only one run on four hits in the game. A small offensive battle took place early, as senior Leslie Svoboda's RBI in the first inning gave the Mavericks the early lead.

USD tied the game in the second, then put it away in the fourth with a Mel Johnson home run. The pitch that cleared the centerfield fence was offered up by freshman pitcher Beth Haley, who gave up two runs total in the contest.

The second game of the series mirrored the first. The Maverick offense produced three runs, all of which came in the final inning of play.

With the team trailing 5-0, the Maverick offense turned in what they had left and managed to end the game respectably

with a 5-3 defeat. Senior leaders Svoboda and Brianna Cataudella drove in the team's only runs, with an RBI single and a two-RBI double, respectively.

The offensive woes for the Mavericks translated into a winless Tuesday and ended their streak. The 15-game run spanned five cities, nearly three weeks and included 11 wins against NCC opponents.

On Wednesday, the Mavs split a double-header with in-state rival Wayne St.

With the pressures of a streak now relieved, UNO will have a clean slate in its run towards the final NCC title.

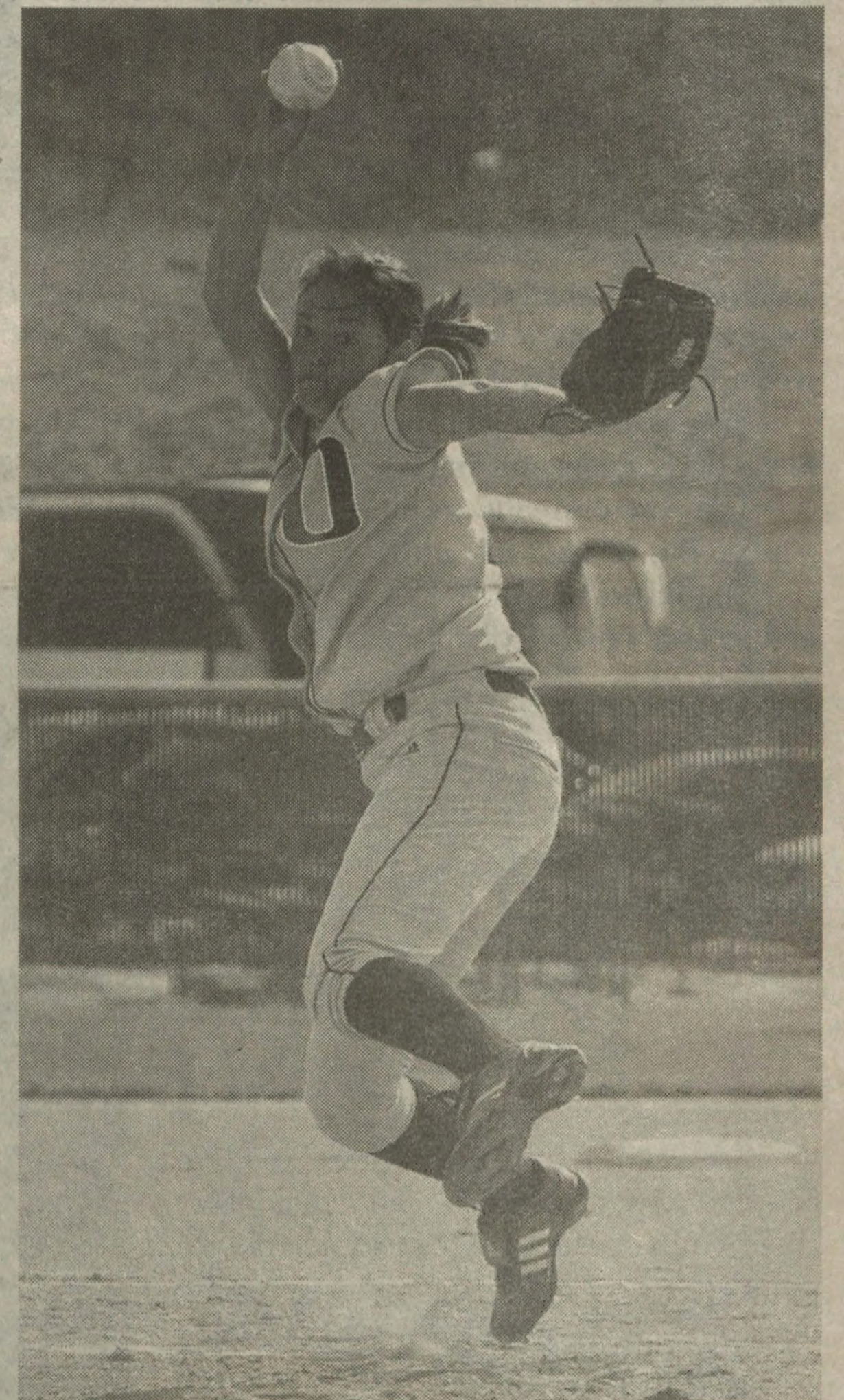


photo by Michelle Bishop

Melissa Negrete picks up a win as the Mavs split a double-header with Wayne St. on Wednesday. UNO lost game one 4-3 in 10-innings, but bounced back to win 2-1 in game two.

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Golf team turns in runner-up finish at Ironwood

Wolfe, Weddle and Ommen lead Mavericks in this week's Omaha tourney

JASON SIBSON
SPORTS EDITOR

Despite three top 10 individual finishes, the Maverick golf team finished second behind Augustana at Sunday and Monday's UNO Ironwood Collegiate Golf Classic in Omaha.

UNO has now recorded top-two team finishes in all three spring events this season, and as a result will likely maintain its spot as the National Golf Coaches Association's No. 1 team in the North Region.

Still, UNO Head Coach Tim Nelson said the aftertaste of his team's performance this week was anything but sweet.

"We didn't play as well as we had hoped," Nelson said.

Nelson, now in his fifth season at UNO, cited the weather as a major player in the high scoring at Ironwood this week.

"Sunday, the day was actually beautiful, but the wind was blowing, and Monday was so strange," Nelson said. "It was pretty nice, then all the sudden about 9:30 a.m., the wind changed, the temperature dropped, kids were putting on rain suits and I was passing out hand warmers."

"When you get wind conditions and the greens got fast – they just dried out with the wind and everything – we had a

little trouble putting."

Sara Wolfe led the red and black in their only home tournament of the spring season with a two-day total of 168, finishing in fifth place.

After recording an 80.5 stroke average in the fall season, the senior education major has finished in the top 10 in all three tournaments this spring.

"Sara, right now, has just got a lot of confidence in herself," Nelson said. "She's striking the ball very well. She's handling

her emotions very well; she's not letting things get to her.

"Sara's a good player, and when she builds this confidence she's got in herself right now, it just shows you what she's very capable of doing."

For Wolfe's teammate and fellow senior Lynn Mulligan, Sunday and Monday were days she'd like to forget.

Mulligan came into this year's Ironwood Classic as the tournament's defending champion. With high expectations

and a large gallery of family members surrounding her, the team's No. 1 golfer shot 89 Sunday and 85 Monday – her two highest rounds of the season.

Mulligan, two weeks removed from a second-place finish in the Upper Iowa

Spring Classic, admitted after Sunday's 89 that anxiety was taking its toll on her play.

"This morning, my stomach was in knots because I just put so much pressure on myself," Mulligan said. "The second or third hole, I three-putted from really close, and my hands were just shaking because I was so nervous."

Mulligan settled in a bit on Monday, but nonetheless turned in her first finish outside of the top 10 this season.

Her 174 landed her in 12th place.

"She's not hitting the ball very solidly right now, which is very uncharacteristic of her," Nelson said. "Sometimes, you just got to go play through it."

Abbey Weddle and Erin Ommen joined Wolfe as Mavericks inside the top 10 at this week's tournament.

Weddle finished seventh at Ironwood with a 169, adding to her monster spring season. The sophomore Missouri Western State transfer shared the individual title in the team's opening tournament in March and finished tied for 10th at Upper Iowa.

Ommen, also a sophomore, tied for eighth at Ironwood to give her two top-10 finishes in three events this spring.

Dani Suponchick's 173, Lindsay Newton's 181 and Kate O'Dea's 184 rounded out the scoring this week for the Mavs.

This weekend, UNO will compete in the Okoboji invitational, which Nelson referred to as a preview to the regional tournament.

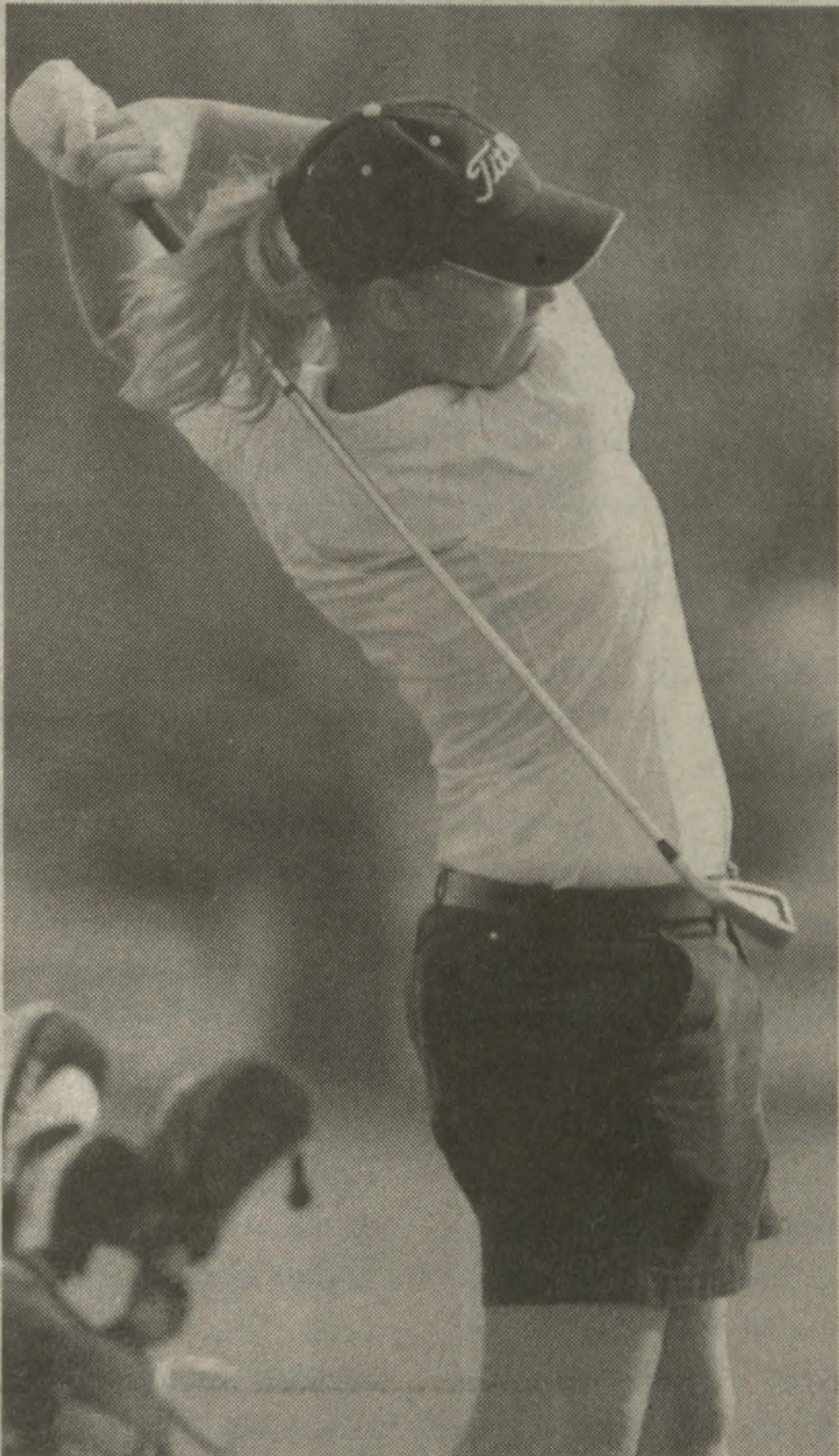
The real NCAA Division II North Region Championship

will be played in Grand Forks, N.D., during finals week. A top-two finish at the regional tournament would send the team to Houston the following week to compete in the NCAA Division II National Championship.

It's a feat that Nelson said his team is more than capable of accomplishing.

"We've got an excellent shot," Nelson said. "We won a tournament in Grand Forks at the golf course last fall, so we know we can play that well. We just need to get our games together, get all the parts of it going solid: the ball striking, the putting, the chipping."

"If we keep concentrating on our targets and play, we should be in contention for the spots to go to nationals."



courtesy gomavs.unomaha.edu

RESULTS

UNO Scores

Sara Wolfe, T5, 85-83—168
Erin Ommen, T8, 86-85—171
Abbey Weddle, 7, 86-83—169
Lynn Mulligan, 12, 89-85—174
Lindsay Newton, 24, 94-87—181

Individuals

Dani Suponchick, 11, 86-87—173
Kate O'Dea, 28, 92-92—184

Team Standings

1. Augustana, 340-330—670
2. Nebraska-Omaha, 346-336—682
3. Upper Iowa, 350-343—693
4. Concordia-St. Paul, 359-342—701
5. North Dakota, 362-350—712
6. South Dakota, 370-367—737
7. Minnesota State, Moorhead, 389-388—777

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Track hits California

UNO posts five qualifying times

BENJAMIN MCCALL
CONTRIBUTOR

The UNO Maverick track team headed to California this weekend for two important early season meets.

On Friday, the Mavs competed in the Azusa Pacific Invitational Track and Field Meet. The next day, they took a trip to Long Beach for the Long Beach State Invitational.

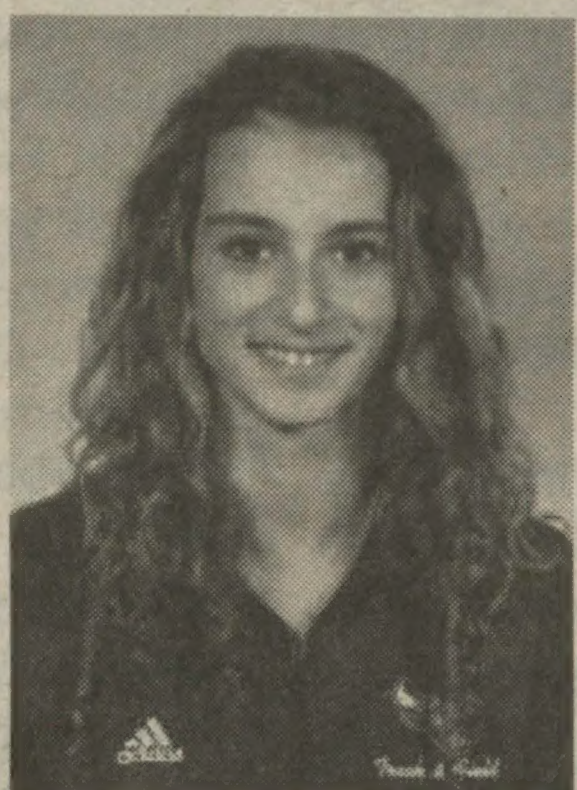
At both events, the Mavericks made qualifying marks.

"The weather was beautiful," said UNO Head Coach Steve Smith. "With Division I athletes in both meets, it made for a good competition on both days."

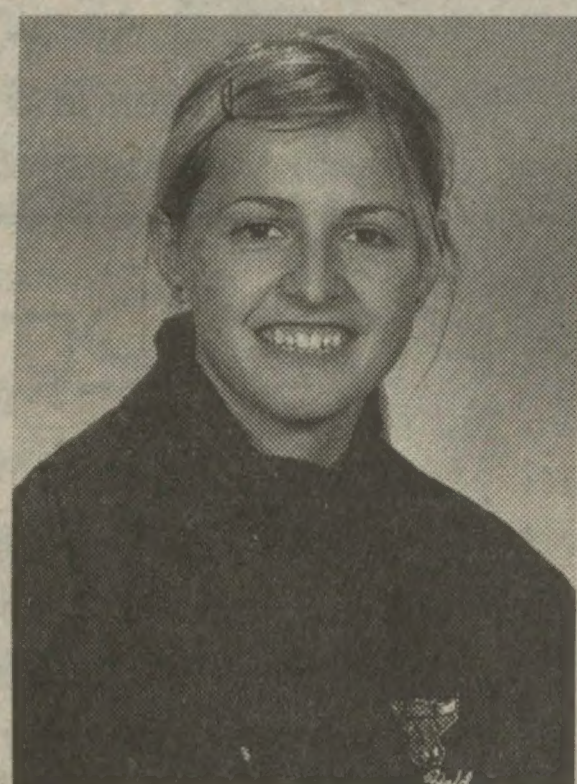
Before Friday's meet, the Mavericks suffered a setback. Molly Belling was removed from the 4x400 due to injury and replaced by Lisa Tesarek.

"Molly hurt herself on Thursday with the 4x1 handoff in practice," Smith said. "She was pretty banged up and bruised and couldn't run the 4x400 on Friday, so she was replaced by Lisa."

Despite Belling's injury, UNO managed to record qualifying marks in



Pinar Saka



Anja Puc



Rasheema Pitt

the 4x400. The relay team qualified with a time of 3:51.76, which garnered a second-place finish behind Division I Boise State.

Pinar Saka posted a qualifying mark in the 200-meter dash Friday, placing seventh. Anja Puc qualified in the 400-meter dash with a time of 55.41 seconds, giving her an eighth-place finish in the invitational.

UNO then made two more qualifying marks in Long Beach on Saturday: Saka in the 200-meter dash and Rasheema Pitt in the triple jump.

Saka placed sixth in the 200-meter dash with a time of 24.29, bettering her time of 24.41 in Azusa the day before. Finishing first was World Champion Christine Ohuruogu of Great Britain with a time of 23.02.

Pitt, a freshman, placed seventh in the triple jump with a leap of 38-01.25.

Against top-notch competition, the Mavericks produced great results during their California road trip. They will now travel back to the Cornhusker State to compete in this Sunday's Nebraska Open in Lincoln.

Mavs still offer two home athletic events this season

SCOTT STEWART
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Looking to unwind a little bit before studying for that looming final next week? Need an excuse to be outside for a couple hours rather than writing that term paper? Want to catch one more game of Maverick athletic action?

Well, UNO fans, you're in luck: There are still two more opportunities to see your favorite athletes take the field in the red and black before the end of the semester.

After seeing an 18-game winning streak demolished by a 7-2 loss to Washburn University in Topeka, Kan., the Maverick baseball team will return from a weekend series against North Central Conference rival St. Cloud State to challenge Washburn to a rematch in Omaha next Tuesday.

Fans who show up at the Ball Park at Boys Town for Tuesday's doubleheader will be treated not only to a grudge match but also an opportunity to see the Mavs take on a future conference foe. Washburn is one of 10 colleges that currently make up the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association, the conference UNO will join at the conclusion of this season as the NCC calls it quits after 57 years.

Maverick soccer fans will also be able to enjoy a game before the fall, with an alumni game scheduled for this Saturday. The match is scheduled for 1 p.m. at Chili Greens.

Admission to Maverick athletic games is free with a MavCard. Children and spouses of students get in free.

Otherwise, Maverick soccer games are \$3 for adults and \$2 for students and seniors. Baseball games are \$5 for adults and \$3 for students or seniors.

ON THE ROAD...

Saturday, April 26 & Sunday, April 27
Softball at Minnesota State Tournament
Baseball at St. Cloud State
Tennis at NCC Tournament
Golf at Okoboji Invitational

Monday, April 28 & Tuesday, April 29
Track at NCC Heptathlon-Decathlon

Friday, May 2 & Saturday, May 3
Softball at NCC Tournament
Baseball at Minnesota State, Mankato

Saturday, May 3
Track at Ward Haylett Invite

Sunday, May 4
Baseball at Winona State

Monday, May 5 to Wednesday, May 7
Golf at NCAA Division II North Regional Championships

Thursday, May 8 to Sunday, May 11
Baseball at NCC Tournament

Friday, May 9 through Saturday, May 10
Track at NCC Outdoor Championships
Tennis at NCAA Regional

Source: gomavs.unomaha.edu

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An open letter to campus administration *Students deserve more say, definitive vote in Fund B allocations*

I didn't feel well last Friday morning, so I decided to listen to the University of Nebraska Board of Regents meeting's audio feed rather than drive to Lincoln for it.

It turns out I made the right decision not to be in attendance. Had I been, everyone at the press table would have seen my jaw drop when I heard Chancellor John Christensen imply that students were upset with the way student fees are handled at UNO only because of the situation with Crossroads Mall.

This is easily the most seriously questionable thing I have heard Christensen say since he took office during the fallout from Nancy Belck's financial tumult and resignation.

Christensen's comments came after Student Senate Speaker Dayton Headlee spoke earlier in the regents' meeting about the need for more student oversight in student fee decisions. Headlee said students would feel disenfranchised as long as student fee decisions were done "in secret, without student input."

Student President/Regent Lucas Seiler chimed in to support Headlee, stressing that concerns were "more against the process about how this is done and less against the Crossroads situation that we're currently in." Christensen's direct contradiction of this is certainly not a sign of an administration listening to students' concerns.

It's also a sign of Christensen not being familiar with the history of student issues on this campus.

Which is strange, considering Christensen was a master's student at UNO when the University Program and Facilities Fees were first implemented by the Board of Regents in 1973, splitting student fees

into Fund A and Fund B.

Fund B – which supports the Milo Bail Student Center, Student Health Services, Student Organizations and Leadership Programs, campus recreation, athletics and other student services – has been controversial since its inception. While Fund A – which funds student government, no more than 30 percent of the *Gateway* and Maverick Productions (formerly SPO) – is controlled by students, Fund B is controlled by the administration.

When the fee structure was first created, there was a controversy over \$7,800 worth of purchases made by then Chancellor Ronald Roskens, who bought china, silver and a catering van using money from the "facilities fund" – in other words, UPFF. (Of course, this hardly rival's Nancy Belck's \$95,836.83 renovation of her office, but who is counting the hundreds of thousands wasted over the years?)

In 1976, while Christensen was teaching at the University of Kansas, then-Student Sen. Mike O'Connor drafted and lobbied for legislation in the Nebraska Legislature to give control of all student fees at UNO to the Student Senate. The Board of Regents did preemptively sue the Unicameral, successfully claiming that the regents and not state senators have the right to determine how those monies are spent, but the point is clear: Students were not happy with not having a say in student fee allocations.

While Christensen was a visiting professor at Beijing Normal University, the year 1989 saw another flourish of activity regarding Fund B voting rights.

Vice Chancellor of Educational and Student Services Richard Hoover stopped giving Student Senate the right to "endorse" Fund B allocations altogether.

The *Gateway* reported Hoover decided instead to ask the opinion of the Vice Chancellor's Leadership Advisory Council because "it seemed to me easier to deal with" that group, Hoover said in an Nov. 28, 1989 article. Hoover made that decision because the Student Senate hadn't approved the Fund B budget and instead asked for more accountability in the process the previous budget cycle.

In more recent times, Student Senate Speaker Aaron Gilliland vocalized concerns over the Fund B allocation process. He observed that the financial mismanagement during Belck's administration underscored the importance of student checks and balances in the managing of student fee money.

Gilliland also asserted, and then meticulously proved, that many other universities gave their students more say in how their money is spent. On Oct. 5, 2006, Gilliland concluded UNO's system was "broken" after showing eight of 10 peer institutions do a better job at allowing student input than UNO did.

UNL certainly does a better job, too. All it takes is little research into UNL's Committee for Fee Allocation to realize that Lincoln's model, although perhaps still flawed, is light-years down the road from the University of No Opportunity.

Yet the attitude put forth by Christensen and Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Wade Robinson is essentially unaltered from what Roskens told the *Gateway* in 1974: "I don't know any institution off-hand where it is done differently. In fact, at a number of institutions that I know of, students have less participation in the allocation of fee money than they do here."

Facts don't seem to matter to the administration. Student opinion doesn't, either.

Listen, ultimately students at UNO are Nebraskans. Nebraskans tend to be fiscally conservative. Fiscally conservative, responsible, sane people want oversight on how their money is spent.

Letting people like Christensen and Robinson decide how Fund B will be spent and then showing their results to a handful of student leaders doesn't cut it. Students at large, or at the very least their representatives, deserve a vote. It's just that simple.

Saying that students are upset over Fund B simply because of the Crossroads situation is at best ignorant. At worst, it's an outright lie.

Students, if you agree with me, I encourage you to learn more about how student fees work here at UNO. For starters, join my Facebook group "Student Representation for Fund B Allocations at UNO" and read the information posted there.

Also ask questions of your leaders in student government and the administration – that's what they're here for, after all, right?

It's also important to let others know how you feel. Talk to your classmates about these issues. Write the members of the Board of Regents, NU President James B. Milliken, Christensen, Robinson, Seiler, Headlee and even your state senators.

Getting control of Fund B is an critical part of bringing accountability to a campus that proved only a couple years ago how dangerous a lack of oversight can be.

With UNO's centennial on the horizon, we owe it to our campus to correct this irresponsible process.

In another 100 years, we don't want UNO students to still be without a voice in how their money is spent.

Sinister Slant



Scott Stewart

Friends irreplaceable, play different roles in life

The other day I was driving home from *Gateway* production and a thought struck me. I picked up my cell phone and called Scott. I asked him to remember when he was in grade school and try to recall if he had girl friends who gave each other half heart necklaces containing the words "Best" and "Friends" on the matching piece. He said he knew what I was talking about.

Then I asked him if I gave him a "Best" necklace if he would wear it. He laughed and said it would be funny if he did. I told him I'd buy him a keychain instead. Not really having anything else to say, I hung up, a smile on my lips.

I love my friends. I don't know what I would do without them. Even as I write this, my eyes burn from tears coming to my eyes.

I'm so blessed.

My feeling of blessedness was confirmed a couple months ago when I celebrated my 21st birthday. More people than I could have imagined turned out to celebrate with me. People I never dreamed of showing up did with a smile

on their face. But more than just showing up and wishing me a happy birthday, they expressed their love to me.

While I entertained my well-wishers with one of my lame Cassy stories, the waiter brought out a platter. On it were a teddy bear, two cards signed by nearly 20 of my friends and a silver heart necklace containing my birthstone, the amethyst.

One of my sorority sisters pulled me into a hug and told me that they had been conspiring for weeks to give me something that matched the ring that had once signified love and commitment but now represented a relationship full of pain and betrayal.

Soon after, my sister gave me an amethyst heart bracelet. I now had the perfect set of jewelry.

The outpouring of love made me want to break down in the middle of dinner at Old Chicago. It reminded me that there are still good people in this world. People who cared enough about me to give me their home while I sobbed over a broken heart, who called me every day to see how I was doing or made more than serious death threats on the life of a

no-longer-special someone.

I've decided that different friends play different roles in life. There's the friend that will always be there for you no matter what, the friend that knew you when you were an awkward teenager with braces, the friend who smoothly floats back into your life without skipping a beat after time away and the friend who makes you giggle no matter

how dead inside you feel.

Those are the friends I love and appreciate. It's going to be hard to say goodbye when I leave for D.C. I sure am going to miss them this summer. But I find comfort in knowing they will still be here in good 'ol Omaha, waiting in the airport, ready to welcome me back in their loving arms.

Because that's what friends do.

Controlled Chaos



Cassy Loseke

Letter to the Editor

While reading the *Gateway* on April 11, I was shocked to read the headline stating, "Christians and the crap they feed you." I have always been a devote *Gateway* reader and fully support student media, but this article by Elizabeth Dam simply crossed the line. There is no doubt that birth control is a hot topic among college students, and while I agree with Dam that "the pill" is not a form of abortion, I think she took the wrong route in justifying her opinion.

Just because one radical right wing

Christian believes that birth control is a form of abortion, doesn't mean that all Christians do. Writing such as this only perpetuates unfair stereotypes about Christians and Christianity in general. Dam's article may have been about contraception, but the title and inferences made within the story itself about religion are hurtful to those who have faith, including myself.

Sean Jensen

Junior, Aviation Administration

Gateway Editorial & Letter Policies

The opinions expressed on this page are not necessarily those of the University of Nebraska at Omaha, its student body or the University of Nebraska Board of Regents. Unsigned editorials are the opinion of the *Gateway* editorial board. Columns are solely the opinion of their writers; cartoons are solely the opinion of their artists. Letters to the editor will be selected for publication on the

basis of timeliness, clarity and available space. The editor reserves the right to edit all letters for publication. Letters must be signed using the writer's first and last names as well as title or academic major and class standing. Letters must include the writer's address and phone number for verification purposes only. Letters exceeding two typed pages will not be considered for publication.

Mav-Rec Campus Recreation

Health, Physical Education and Recreation Building Hours

Monday - Thursday: 6:30 AM - 11:00 PM
Friday: 8:30 AM - 7:00 PM
Saturday: 8:30 AM - 7:00 PM
Sunday: 12:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Mav-Rec Wellness Stampede

Bound for Beijing

All UNO Students
Faculty
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Registration fee is \$5.00.
Sign-up in the Campus
Recreation Office in HPER 100

Starts Sunday, April 13th
and runs until
Sunday, August 24th
(the Closing Ceremonies of the
29th Olympic Games)

Winners will receive a Prize!!!

Fitness and Wellness
<http://www.unomaha.edu/wwwocr/health/index.php>
402-554-2539

ATTENTION: Pool Hours

The pool will be closed
starting May 2nd at 1pm
and will re-open with
summer hours June 2nd.

Exercise in the Summer

If you attended classes during
the Spring 2008 semester at UNO
you are eligible to use UNO Campus
Recreation Facilities for a minimal
charge of only \$30 for the summer.
Stop by the Health, Physical,
Education and Recreation Building,
Room 100 and show us your current
student ID to purchase a pass to
exercise, play sports or swim.

For More Information Call:
402.554.2539

Mav-Rec IM Sports

Special Events

Punt, Pass, and Kick
Register: March 31 - April 27
1pm @ Caniglia Field
Cancelled

3 Person Golf Scramble
Limited Spots Available
Event: May 2nd
@ Elmwood, tee off @ NOON
SIGN UP IN HPER 205

Swim Meet
Register: March 31 - April 28
Event: April 28th
@ 7:00pm in HPER Pool

Track Meet
Register: April 14 - May 4
Event: May 4th
@ 10am @ Caniglia Field

Intramural Sports
<http://www.unomaha.edu/wwwocr/im/index.php>
402-554-2634

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Outdoor Venture Center
<http://www.unomaha.edu/~wwwocr/ovc.unomaha.edu>
402-554-2258

From **ELECTION:** Page 1

Obama. Ostergard is the associate chair of the Nebraska Democratic Party and member of the Democratic National Committee.

Students are also getting involved in this year's elections in other ways. Several students actively involved in different local campaigns.

Andrew Northwall, chairman of the UNO College Republicans, said he gets involved by walking in parades, attending political events and helping with local campaigns.

"[The College Republicans] walk in parades, help with mailers, and make phone calls. We will

also start doing more work with the [Gov. Mike] Johann's for senate campaign as well as working with Lee Terry on his re-election," Northwall said.

He said that though local campaigns are important he was more interested in national politics.

Bykerk said that she thought both Democratic presidential nominees were an inspiration and incredibly driven.

"I think both of them seem to be very determined and have the intent to win this nomination and

election," Bykerk said.

With so many local and national elections and the number of candidates, Holloway stressed the importance of being an educated voter.

"It's easier to be an informed voter than it has been in the past because there is so much information available. The challenge for voters is to take the time to educate themselves and that is vital," Holloway said.

For more information on local elections, visit the Nebraska secretary of state's Web site at www.sos.state.ne.us/elec/hava/index.html.

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